EXHIBIT 7

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	13	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT				
	14	SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA				
R and Build Route Plane	15					
	16	GEN-PROBE INCORPORATED,	No. 99CV2668H AJB			
tion 1	17	Plaintiff,	[PROPOSED] SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT			
	18	v.	FOR DECLARATORY RELIEF AND UNFAIR COMPETITION			
	19	VYSIS, INC.,	· · · · ·			
1	20	Defendant.				
	21					
	22					
	23	PLAINTIFF GEN-PROBE ALLEGES:				
		. Int	RODUCTION			
	24	1. This action concerns the nature and scope of any obligation of plaintiff Gen-Probe Incorporated ("Gen-Probe") to make royalty payments to defendant Vysis, Inc. ("Vysis") pursuant				
	25					
	26		ties ("the License") in light of the invalidity and non-			
	27		750,338 ("the '338 patent") that is a subject of that			
·	28					
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License. As set forth below, Gen-Probe asks this Court to declare the '338 patent invalid and 1 2 further to declare that Gen-Probe's current and anticipated activities do not infringe any valid claims of the '338 patent. As a corollary to those declarations, Gen-Probe also asks this court to 3 declare its rights and obligations under the terms of the parties' License. Finally, Gen-Probe also 4 seeks relief from Vvsis' continuing acts of wrongful and unfair conduct with respect to the '338 5 patent. 6

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THE PARTIES

Gen-Probe was founded in San Diego in 1984 as a small "start up" company, 2. 8 seeking to develop products based on the discoveries of a local research scientist. Over time, Gen-9 Probe became one of the largest biotechnology firms in San Diego. Gen-Probe now maintains its 10 principal offices and research facilities at 10210 Genetic Center Drive in San Diego, where it 11 employs over 500 scientists and staff. Gen-Probe is organized under the laws of the State of 12 Delaware. 13

Gen-Probe is informed and believes that defendant Vysis, Inc. (hereinafter "Vysis" 3. 14 or "the defendant") is a corporation organized and incorporated under the laws of the State of 15 Delaware. Gen-Probe is further informed and believes that Vysis maintains its principal place of 16 business in Downers Grove, Illinois and that it is controlled by BP Amoco, Inc. 17

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

Counts One and Two of this Complaint seek declaratory relief under the 4. 19 Declaratory Judgment Act, Title 28, United States Code, Sections 2201 and 2202. This Court has 20 subject matter jurisdiction of the claims asserted thereunder by reason of Title 28, United States 21 22 Code, Sections 1331, 1338(a), 1338(b) and 1367.

Venue is proper in this District under Title 28, United States Code, Sections 5. 23 1391(b) and 1400(b). 24

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BACKGROUND

Living cells store genetic information in molecules of nucleic acid known as DNA. 6. 26 These molecules consist of long, thin, chain-like strands which, in turn, are usually found in the 27 form of two tightly bound, complementary chains. DNA molecules retain their genetic information 28 CIVIL CASE NO. 99CV2668H AJB COOLEY GODWARD LLP 264139 v3/SD ATTORNEYS AT LAW 5nt703!.DOC

Ð ហ u U Ū. m E. Ш ٥ in the form of a genetic code. The information in the DNA determines the life processes of each
 organism. The information in the DNA is used to make related nucleic acid molecules called RNA
 that cells use to manufacture proteins.

Through the work of its scientists and staff, Gen-Probe has developed and continues 7. 4 to develop diagnostic tests that seek out the DNA or RNA of the infectious organisms. These types 5 of tests are generally referred to as "genetic probes" or "nucleic acid tests" ("NAT"). Gen-Probe 6 now markets DNA probe products that test for a wide range of microorganisms that cause 7 tuberculosis, strep throat, pneumonia, fungal infections and sexually transmitted diseases. Through 8 the efforts of its scientists and staff, Gen-Probe has emerged as the recognized world leader in the 9 development, manufacture and commercialization of diagnostic products based on its patented 10 genetic probe technology. Gen-Probe has received over 40 FDA clearances and approvals for 11 genetic probe tests to detect a wide range of microorganisms, including Chlamydia trachomatis, 12 Mycobacterium tuberculosis and Neisseria gonorrhoeae. 13

8. Many human diseases are caused by bacterial or viral agents that invade living cells. Historically, the presence of these bacterial or viral agents was detected directly by timeconsuming methods such as culture or indirectly through the detection of antibodies. Unfortunately, it takes time, sometimes weeks or months, to grow organisms in culture, and it usually takes months for the body to manufacture antibodies in sufficient amounts to reveal the presence of infectious agents. Consequently, these methods do not lend themselves to early detection of infection. NAT addresses this problem.

9. Among the disease detection technologies recently applied by Gen-Probe is its
 patented nucleic acid technology known as "Transcription-Mediated Amplification" ("TMA").
 This technology enables Gen-Probe's NAT products to detect extraordinarily small quantities of the
 nucleic acids of infectious agents.

10. In September 1996, Gen-Probe received a \$7.7 million grant from the National
Institutes of Health to develop TMA-based nucleic acid tests to be used in screening donated blood
for and human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), the causative agent of AIDS, and hepatitis C virus
(HCV), which causes a severe form of hepatitis.

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1 11. At the time of the NIH grant to Gen-Probe, donated blood was principally tested by 2 procedures that detected the presence of antibodies to the viruses being screened. Due to the time it 3 takes for the body to make antibodies after initial infection, donated blood may test negative for 4 antibodies, yet still carry infectious viruses. This delay between the time of actual infection and the 5 time that antibodies can first be detected is often known as the "window period." Reduction of this 6 "window period" was a significant concern of the United States government and the primary focus 7 of the grant to Gen-Probe to develop NAT diagnostics for use in blood screening.

8 12. In fulfilling its obligations under the grant, Gen-Probe developed NAT tests to 9 detect the DNAs of HIV and hepatitis C in blood. Through the use of its NAT test, Gen-Probe 10 believes that researchers and medical personnel may rapidly and *directly* detect the presence of 11 genetic material of viruses like HIV and HCV more accurately and without the complications and 12 delay associated with conventional *indirect* tests. As such, Gen-Probe believes that its new test 13 may significantly reduce the "window period" for detection of these extremely harmful viral agents 14 and resulting diseases.

Final development of the NAT tests for blood screening in the United States is now 13. 15 taking place in testing conducted by the American Red Cross, America's Blood Centers, and others. 16 ("A Purity Quest; Local Biotech's Ultra-Sensitive Blood Screening Could Cut Risk of AIDS, 17 Hepatitis," San Diego Union, March 25, 1999, page C-1.) Use of the tests in the United States is 18 made pursuant to an Investigational New Drug Application filed with the United States Food and 19 Drug Administration. In blood tested by the American Red Cross, Gen-Probe's products have 20 detected hepatitis C and HIV which escaped detection by prior methods. ("New Blood Screening 21 Finds Virus Others Missed; Experimental Test Turns Up Hepatitis C In Donated Blood," San Diego 22 Union, April 2, 1999, page B-2.) 23

24 14. On September 21, 1999, the French Ministry of Health approved the sale of the
25 Gen-Probe blood screening tests in France. Gen-Probe anticipates approval of its tests for us in
26 Australia in early 2000.

27 15. Gen-Probe has entered into an agreement with Chiron Corporation ("Chiron") of
 28 Emeryville, California, with respect to the development, manufacture, and distribution of blood
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screening products. Gen-Probe is also a party to an agreement with Bayer Corporation ("Bayer") of
 Emeryville, California with respect to the development, manufacture, and distribution of clinical
 diagnostic products for the detection of HIV and hepatitis C, among other pathogens.

16. Gen-Probe anticipates that additional clinical trials in the United States of its HIV/HCV tests for use in blood screening and in clinical diagnostics will commence in the first part of 2000. Gen-Probe anticipates the conclusion of those clinical trials, and the initiation of commercial sales in the United States of kits containing its HIV/HCV blood screening test, during 2000.

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17. All of the Gen-Probe products are manufactured in San Diego, California.

THE '338 PATENT

11 18. Gen-Probe is informed and believes that on or about May 12, 1998, the United
12 States Patent and Trademark Office issued United States Patent No. 5,750,338 ("the '338 patent")
13 based upon Patent Application No. 238,080 filed on May 3, 1994.

14 19. Gen-Probe is informed and believes that defendant Vysis claims to be the owner, by 15 assignment, of the entire right, title and interest of the '338 patent. The claims of the '338 patent 16 purport to relate to assays and probes for polynucleotide molecules such as DNA and RNA.

17 20. In early 1999, Vysis informed Gen-Probe that it believed that the '338 patent 18 "applied" to Gen-Probe's NAT blood screening tests for HIV and HCV. Following further 19 discussions and to avoid any complications in Gen-Probe's plans for commercial deployment of its 20 NAT test kits, as of June 22, 1999 Gen-Probe obtained a license ("the License") from Vysis under 21 the '338 patent. Gen-Probe also obtained options to the License for its relationships with Chiron 22 and Bayer.

23 21. Under the terms of the License, Vysis requires Gen-Probe (and its allied parties if
24 the options are exercised) to make significant financial payments to Vysis as royalties on the sale of
25 any product covered by any valid claims of the '338 patent.

26 22. Notwithstanding the existence of the License, and as further alleged herein, Gen 27 Probe believes that the claims of '338 patent are invalid in all material respects. Furthermore, Gen 28 Probe believes that its NAT blood screening tests do not infringe any valid claim of the '338 patent.
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5nt703!.DOC 011901/1309 As such, Gen-Probe disagrees with Vysis' contention that the claims of the '338 patent "apply" to Gen-Probe's activities and contemplated products. For these same reasons, Gen-Probe contends that it has no obligation to make any royalty payments to Vysis with respect to its present products and activities and any contemplated products and activities that Vysis may later claim infringe the claims of the '338 patent.

6 23. Gen-Probe has communicated to Vysis its belief that the claims of the '338 patent 7 are invalid. In support of that belief, Gen-Probe has provided Vysis with information that 8 demonstrates that the claims of the '338 patent are invalid. Gen-Probe has also advised Vysis of its 9 belief that its NAT test kits for use in detecting HCV and HIV in the Nation's blood supply do not 10 and will not infringe any valid claims of the '338 patent.

Notwithstanding its receipt of the foregoing information, Vysis persists in its
 assertion that the claims of the '338 patent are valid and enforceable and that Gen-Probe is
 obligated to make royalty payments in accordance with the terms of the License.

14 25. Based upon a long history of litigation between Gen-Probe and Vysis and its 15 affiliates, Gen-Probe reasonably anticipates that should it fail to pay royalties pursuant to the 16 License, Vysis will aggressively attempt to enforce its perceived rights under both the License and 17 the '338 patent by terminating the License and by initiating litigation against Gen-Probe, its allied 18 parties, and customers.

26. An actual case or controversy exists between Gen-Probe and Vysis concerning the
validity and infringement of the '338 patent and Gen-Probe's rights and obligations under the
License. The determination of the issues presented in this complaint will inure to the greater public
benefit and good.

COUNT ONE

NON-INFRINGEMENT OF THE '338 PATENT

25 27. Gen-Probe repeats, repleads and incorporates herein the allegations of paragraphs 1
26 through 26 of this complaint.

27 28. Gen-Probe's NAT test kits for use in detecting HCV and HIV in the Nation's blood 28 supply do not and will not infringe any valid claims of the '338 patent.

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2	COUNT TWO				
3	INVALIDITY OF THE '338 PATENT				
4	29. Gen-Probe repeats, repleads and incorporates herein the allegations of paragraphs 1				
5	through 26 of this complaint.				
6	30. The claims of the '338 patent are invalid by reason of one or more provisions of Title				
7	35 of the United States Code.				
8	COUNT THREE				
9	DECLARATORY RELIEF				
10	31. Gen-Probe repeats, repleads and incorporates herein the allegations of paragraphs 1				
11	through 26 of this complaint.				
12	32. An actual controversy has arisen and now exists concerning the rights and				
<u>р</u> П 13	obligations of Gen-Probe pursuant to the terms of the parties' License. Those disputes arise from				
រៀ រៀ	and their resolution depends upon the federal patent laws.				
12 Π 13 14 15 Π 16	33. Gen-Probe seeks a declaration of its rights and obligations under the License,				
n 16	particularly in light of the invalidity and non-infringement of the '338 patent and defendant's acts				
] 17	of unfair competition as alleged herein.				
17 18 19 19 20 20	COUNT FOUR				
0 19	UNFAIR COMPETITION				
Ē 20	34. Gen-Probe repeats, repleads and incorporates herein the allegations of paragraphs 1				
21	through 33 of this complaint.				
22	35. Vysis knows or should know the underlying facts establishing the invalidity and/or				
23	unenforceability of the claims of the '338 patent. In continuing to enforce the claims of the '338				
24	patent, Vysis has acted and continues to act unfairly, inequitably and in bad faith. In addition,				
25	Vysis' actions constitute unlawful, unfair or fraudulent business practices under California Business				
26	& Professions Code Sections 17200, et seq.				
27	36. By reason of the aforementioned acts of unfair competition and unlawful, unfair				
28	and fraudulent business practices, Gen-Probe is entitled to damages, as established at time of trial,				
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1 restitution and injunctive relief.

COUNT FIVE

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UNENFORCEABILITY OF THE '338 PATENT

37. Gen-Probe repeats, repleads and incorporates herein the allegations of paragraphs 1 through 36 of this complaint.

6 38. Applicants for patents have a general duty of candor and good faith in their dealings 7 with the Patent and Trademark Office (the "Patent Office") and an affirmative obligation to disclose 8 to the Patent Office all information that they know to be material to the examination of a pending 9 application pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. This duty extends to the applicants and their 10 representatives, such as their attorneys, and all others associated with the prosecution, including 11 every person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application.

39. Gen-Probe is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that Vysis or its predecessors-in-interest and their agents (hereinafter collectively referred to as "the applicants") knowingly and willfully concealed and misrepresented material evidence during the prosecution of the '338 patent applications and that by such inequitable conduct, the '338 patent is unenforceable against Gen-Probe for the reasons that follow.

FACTS RELATED TO THE ABANDONMENT OF THE CLAIMED INVENTION OF NUCLEIC ACID AMPLIFICATION

40. On October 23, 1986, the applicants filed a patent application entitled "Target and
Background Capture Methods and Apparatus for Affinity Assays." After filing, the Patent Office
assigned that application the numerical designation, Serial No. 06/922,155 (the "155 application").
Although, the '155 application purported to describe a technique for reversible target capture, it
contained no disclosure of or claims to amplification techniques as claimed by Vysis in the '338
patent. The applicants identified Mark L. Collins as the sole inventor of the alleged inventions
claimed in the '155 application.

26 41. On December 21, 1987, prior to substantive examination of the '155 application by
 27 the Patent Office, Vysis filed a Continuation-in-Part of the '155 application. The Patent Office
 28 assigned this Continuation-in-Part application Serial No. 07/136,920 (the "'920 application"). The
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C Q 1 applicants entitled the '920 application "Target and Background Capture Methods with 2 Amplification," and initially submitted claims in the '920 application to a method of nucleic acid 3 amplification (claims 1-23), and a claim to an instrument for performing assays for target 4 polynucleotides (claim 24).

5 42. In its initial examination of the '920 application, the Patent Office issued a 6 restriction requirement because it deemed the claimed inventions of the amplification and 7 instrument claims of the '920 application as distinct. In response to that restriction requirement, the 8 applicants elected to proceed in the '920 application by prosecuting only the amplification claims 9 (claims 1-23).

10 43. On July 20, 1990, following the applicants' election to proceed with only the 11 amplification claims in the '920 application, the Patent Office issued an office action regarding that 12 application by which it rejected all claims of the '920 application on prior art and other grounds of 13 patentability. The Patent Office provided the applicants until October 20, 1990, with extensions 14 available until January 20, 1991, to submit a substantive response to that office action.

44. Rather than prepare a substantive response to the July 20, 1990 office action, and in
order to continue prosecuting claims to a method of nucleic acid amplification, on January 22,
17 1991, the applicants filed a continuing application from the '920 application. The Patent Office
designated this continuing application as application Serial No. 07/644,967 (the "'967
application"). Concurrent with the filing of the '967 application, the applicants then expressly
abandoned the '920 application.

45. On March 12, 1991, the Patent Office issued an office action for the '967
application by which it issued a final rejection of the claims submitted with that application.
Pursuant to statute, the Patent Office provided the applicants with a shortened response period until
June 12, 1992, with extensions available until September 12, 1992, to respond to this final rejection
of the claims of the '967 application.

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Patent Office designated this further continuation application Serial No. 07/944,505 (the "505 application"). Consistent with continuation practice and rules, the applicants presented only claims to a method of nucleic acid amplification the 505 application, all other claims having been withdrawn by prior election. Concurrent with their filing of the 505 application, the applicants then expressly abandoned the 967 application.

6 47. On November 5, 1992, the Patent Office issued an office action for the '505 7 application by which it issued a final rejection of the claims submitted with that application. 8 Pursuant to statute, the Patent Office provided the applicants with a shortened response period until 9 February 5, 1993, with extensions available until May 5, 1993, to respond to this final rejection of 10 the claims of the '505 application.

48. With the applicants' express knowledge and awareness of the requirement to respond to the November 5, 1992, office action within the statutorily required time and the further knowledge of the consequences of abandonment arising from any failure to respond within that required time, applicants intentionally elected not to respond to the office action.

49. Consistent with Patent Office rules and procedures, following the applicants' failure to respond to the November 5, 1992, office action, on June 16,1993, the Patent Office sent a formal notice of abandonment of the '505 application to the applicants. Again, however, consistent with the applicants' intentional decision not to respond to the office action, the applicants intentionally determined not to respond to the notice of abandonment.

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FACTS RELATED TO THE PROSECUTION OF THE ALLEGED INSTRUMENT INVENTION

Gen-Probe is informed and believes, and thereon alleges, that the applicants 50. 21 intentionally failed to respond to the November 5, 1992, office action rejecting the claims of the 22 505 application and further intentionally failed to respond to the June 16, 1993 notice of 23 abandonment as a result of their decision to abandon the alleged invention directed to a method of 24 nucleic acid amplification originally elected for prosecution in the '920, '967 and '505 applications. 25 On January 31, 1991, consistent with the applicants' decision to acquiesce to the 51. 26 Patent Office's July 20, 1990, restriction requirement issued with respect to the distinct claimed 27 inventions that applicants presented in the '920 application, the applicants filed a separate 28 CIVIL CASE NO. 99CV2668H AJB 264139 v3/SD 5nt703!.DOC

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application by which they elected to prosecute only instrument-related claims originally presented
as claim 24 of the '920 application. The Patent Office assigned this instrument application Serial
No. 07/648,468 (the "468 application"). As originally filed and consistent with the restriction
requirement, in the '468 application, the applicants submitted only claims directed to an instrument
for performing assays for target polynucleotides. The applicants entitled the '468 application
"Closed Vessel for Isolating Target Molecules and for Performing Amplification."

Through their '468 application, the applicants claimed priority of their instrument 52. 7 invention as a continuation-in-part application to the '920 and earlier '155 applications. However, 8 applicants' claim to priority to the '920 and '155 applications was defective as it violated the 9 requirement that the '468 application have been filed prior to the abandonment of the priority 10 applications. In this case, although the applicants filed the '468 application on January 31, 1991, 11 they intentionally abandoned the '920 application on January 22, 1991 and intentionally abandoned 12 the '155 application on February 3, 1990. The applicants intentionally failed to disclose this lack of 13 co-pendency of the '468 application during the prosecution of the '468 application. 14

15 53. The Patent Office initially rejected all the claims of the '468 application on prior art 16 and other grounds of patentability in an office action mailed March 18, 1992. The Patent Office 17 provided the applicants until June 18, 1992, with extensions available until September 18, 1992, to 18 submit a substantive response to that office action.

Rather than prepare a substantive response to the March 18, 1992 office action, and 54. 19 in order to continue prosecuting claims to an instrument for performing assays for target 20 polynucleotides, on September 17, 1992, the applicants filed a continuing application from the '468 21 application. The Patent Office designated this continuing application as application Serial No. 22 07/946,749 (the "'749 application"). Consistent with the restriction requirement originally issued 23 in the '920 application, the applicants submitted only claims directed to an instrument for 24 performing assays for target polynucleotides in the '749 application. Concurrent with the filing of 25 the '749 application, the applicants then expressly abandoned the '468 application. 26

2755. The Patent Office initially rejected all the claims of the '749 application on prior art28and other grounds of patentability in an office action mailed March 22, 1993. The Patent Office264139 v3/SDCIVIL CASE NO. 99CV2668H AJB285nt703! DOC

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provided the applicants until June 22, 1993, with extensions available until September 22, 1993, to
 submit a substantive response to that office action.

Rather than prepare a substantive response to the March 22, 1993 office action, and 56. 3 in order to continue prosecuting claims to an instrument for performing assays for target 4 polynucleotides, on September 21, 1993, the applicants filed a continuing application from the '749 5 application. The Patent Office designated this continuing application as application Serial No. 6 08/124,826 (the "826 application"). Consistent with the restriction requirement originally issued 7 in the '920 application, the applicants submitted only claims directed to an instrument for 8 performing assays for target polynucleotides in the '826 application. Concurrent with the filing of 9 the '826 application, the applicants then expressly abandoned the '749 application. 10

The Patent Office initially and finally rejected all the claims of the '826 application on prior art and other grounds of patentability in an office action mailed December 9, 1993. The Patent Office provided the applicants until March 9, 1994, with extensions available until June 9, 14 1994, to submit a substantive response to that office action.

Rather than prepare a substantive response to the December 9, 1993 office action, 58. 15 and in order to continue prosecuting claims to an instrument for performing assays for target 16 polynucleotides, on June 8, 1994, the applicants filed a continuing application from the '826 17 application. The Patent Office designated this continuing application as application Serial No. 18 08/257,469 (the "'469 application"). Consistent with the restriction requirement originally issued 19 in the '920 application, the applicants submitted only claims directed to an instrument for 20 performing assays for target polynucleotides in the '469 application. Concurrent with the filing of 21 the '469 application, the applicants then expressly abandoned the '826 application. 22

59. The Patent Office initially and finally rejected all the claims of the '469 application on prior art and other grounds of patentability in an office action mailed September 12, 1994. The Patent Office provided the applicants until December 12, 1994, with extensions available until March 12, 1995, to submit a substantive response to that office action.

2760. Rather than prepare a substantive response to the December 12, 1994 office action,28and in order to continue prosecuting claims to an instrument for performing assays for target264139 v3/SDCIVIL CASE NO. 99CV2668H AJB

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5nt703!.DOC 011901/1309 polynucleotides, on March 8, 1995, the applicants filed a continuing application from the '469 application. The Patent Office designated this continuing application as application Serial No. 08/400,657 (the "'657 application"). Consistent with the restriction requirement originally issued in the '920 application, the applicants submitted only claims directed to an instrument for performing assays for target polynucleotides in the '657 application. Concurrent with the filing of the '657 application, the applicants then expressly abandoned the '469 application.

7 61. The Patent Office initially and finally rejected all the claims of the '657 application
8 on prior art and other grounds of patentability in an office action mailed April 25, 1995. The Patent
9 Office provided the applicants until July 5, 1995, with extensions available until October 5, 1995, to
10 submit a substantive response to that office action.

Rather than prepare a substantive response to the April 25, 1995 office action, on 62. 11 October 25, 1995, the applicants submitted a notice of appeal of the '657 application. Rather than 12 file an appeal brief, and in order to continue prosecuting claims to an instrument for performing 13 assays for target polynucleotides, on March 25, 1996, the applicants filed a continuing application 14 from the '657 application. The Patent Office designated this continuing application as application 15 Serial No. 08/622,491 (the "'491 application"). Consistent with the restriction requirement 16 originally issued in the '920 application, the applicants submitted only claims directed to an 17 instrument for performing assays for target polynucleotides in the '491 application. Concurrent 18 with the filing of the '491 application, the applicants then expressly abandoned the '657 19 application. 20

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APPLICANTS' EFFORTS TO OVERCOME THEIR INTENTIONAL ABANDONMENT OF THE '505 APPLICATION AND THEIR ALLEGED CLAIMS TO A METHOD OF AMPLIFICATION

Gen-Probe is informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, that sometime on or 63. 23 before May 3, 1994, the applicants determined to attempt to reverse their prior intentional 24 abandonment of the alleged invention directed to a method of nucleic acid amplification. As a 25 result of that determination, on May 3, 1994, fifteen months after they failed to respond to the 26 shortened statutory response to the office action of November 5, 1993 and almost eleven months 27 after they further failed to respond to the formal notice of abandonment, applicants attempted to 28 CIVIL CASE NO. 99CV2668H AJB COOLEY GODWARD LLP 264139 v3/SD ATTORNEYS AT LAW

5nt703!.DOC 011901/1309 revive their '505 application by filing a formal petition to revive the '505 application. In that petition, the applicants misrepresented the fact concerning their prior intentional abandonment of the '505 application and claimed that they "unintentionally" failed to respond to the Patent Office. The applicants stated that "[t]he abandonment occurred as a result of the oversight of Applicants representative and was not intended by Applicants."

6 64. As set forth above, the applicants' claim of unintentional abandonment of the '505 7 was false. Gen-Probe is informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, that the applicants' 8 failure to respond to the Patent Office's rejection of the claims of '505 application directed to the 9 claimed invention of a method of nuclei acid amplification was intentional. Indeed, the applicants' 10 intentional decision not to respond to the '505 office action was consistent with and driven by 11 applicants' underlying decision to abandon the invention claimed in the '505 application.

12 65. On October 27, 1994, the Patent Office rendered a decision denying the applicants' 13 petition to revive the '505 application. As the Patent Office explained, the '505 application became 14 abandoned on February 6, 1993, when the applicants failed to respond to the office action of 15 November 5, 1992. Because the petition to revive the '505 application was filed more than one 16 year after the '505 application became abandoned, the petition was barred under 37 C.F.R. 17 1.137(b). Accordingly, the Patent Office refused to revive the '505 application under 37 C.F.R. 18 1.137(b).

19 66. The Patent Office informed the applicants that they might be able to revive the '505 20 application under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.137(a). However, the Patent Office explained that 21 "in view of the fact that this case has been abandoned for an inordinate period of time, petitioner 22 must show diligence between the time of becoming aware of the abandonment of the above-23 identified application and the filing of a petition to revive."

24 67. The applicants declined to seek relief pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.137(a), thereby
25 acquiescing to the Patent Office's determination that the '505 patent was abandoned on February 6,
26 1993.

27 68. Concurrent with their ultimately unsuccessful effort to revive the '505 application,
 28 on May 3, 1994, the applicants filed a new original application that the Patent Office designated as
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Serial No. 08/238,080 (the "'080 application"), filed. In the '080 application, the applicants did not 1 initially disclose to the Patent Office that the application was virtually identical to that they 2 intentionally abandoned in the '505 application or of the fact of that abandonment. In addition, the 3 applicants also failed initially to disclose the fact of their concurrent efforts to revive the '505 4 application. Furthermore, notwithstanding the fact that the applicants knew and intended that the 5 '080 application should be treated as a new original application, applicants did not submit new 6 oaths from the alleged inventors for the '080 application. The applicants also failed to disclose to 7 the Patent Office that, as an original application, the claims of the '080 application were anticipated 8 by the prior publication on August 23, 1989, of the applicants' own European application 9 corresponding to the '920 application, European Application No. 88312135.2. 10

As a result of the applicants' intention to treat the '080 application as an original
application and their concurrent failure to submit new oaths to support that application, on June 3,
1994, the Patent Office issued a notice to the applicants by which the Patent Office indicated that it
had noted that the applicants had failed to file proper oaths or declarations for the '080 application.

In response to the Patent Office's notice to file the missing oaths necessary to 70. 15 support the '080 application, on February July 5, 1994, the applicants submitted a formal response 16 to that notice by which response the applicants first disclosed the prior abandonment of the '505 17 application and petitioned the Patent Office to consider the '080 application as a continuation 18 application to the '505 application. By that response, the applicants' concurrently petitioned the 19 Patent Office to consider the '080 application as filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.60 as a continuation of 20 their previously abandoned '505 application. However, through this response and the petition 21 incorporated therein, the applicants continued to misrepresent the prior abandonment of the '505 22 application and invention as "unintentional." 23

On October 27, 1994, the Patent Office formally dismissed the applicants' petition 71. 24 to revive the '505 application. The applicants did not disclose that decision to the branch of the 25 Patent Office handling the applications' petition in the '080 application to treat the '080 application 26 as a continuation application to the '505 application. In any event, however, on March 14, 1995, 27 the Patent Office formally dismissed that petition as moot and declared that the '080 application 28 CIVIL CASE NO. 99CV2668H AJB COOLEY GODWARD LLP 264139 v3/SD ATTORNEYS AT LAW 5nt703!.DOC

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1 would be processed with a filing date of May 3, 1994.

72. The Patent Office decisions denying the applicants' petitions to revive the '505 application and to treat the '080 application as a continuation of the '505 created significant, indeed insurmountable, impediments to the applicants' desire to recant and reverse their earlier abandonment of the '505 application and the alleged invention consisting of the amplification method presented therein. Among other problems raised by those decisions, the applicants knew that unless they could manipulate the priority to which the '080 application was entitled, their own prior publications would constitute statutory bars to patentability.

9 10

APPLICANT'S EFFORTS TO FRAUDULENTLY MANUFACTURE CLAIMS OF PRIORITY FOR THE '080 APPLICATION

In light of the foregoing fatal impediments to patentability of the method claims 73. 11 presented in the '080 application, the applicants then proceeded to manufacture a scheme to 12 undermine the Patent Office decisions denying their ability to claim priority for the '080 application 13 back through the '505 application. As the first step in that scheme, on December 5, 1995, the 14 applicants submitted a preliminary amendment in the '080 application in which they claimed, for 15 the first time, that the '080 application was a divisional application to the '657 application that the 16 applicants filed on March 8, 1995 to pursue the instrument claims and invention first claimed in the 17 '468 application, as alleged in paragraph 60 of this Amended Complaint. 18

The applicants' efforts regarding and claim of priority of the '080 application to the 74. 19 '657 application were improper for several reasons. First, as indicated above, the applicants had 20 previously elected to pursue only the instrument claims in the '657 application. As such, and 21 without prior disclosure to or permission from the Patent Office, the applicants impermissibly 22 "shift" their method claims back to the claim 24 of the '920 application, and subject to the 23 restriction of July 20, 1990, in that application. As noted hereinabove, the applicants originally 24 filed the chain of applications that included the '657 application in order to prosecute the claims 25 directed to an invention regarding an instrument for performing assays for target polynucleotides, 26 Second, the applicants' efforts to claim that the '080 application was a divisional application of the 27 '657 application was additionally defective because the specification and claims of the '080 patent 28 CIVIL CASE NO. 99CV2668H AJB 264139 v3/SD

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264139 v3/SE 5nt703!.DOC 011901/1309 1 are different from and not supported by the specification and claims of the '657 application.

However, in applicants' zeal to implement their inequitable scheme to overcome the 75. 2 Patent Office determination that the claims of the '080 application were only entitled to claim 3 priority as of May 3, 1994, the applicants overlooked an even more significant defect in their effort 4 to claim priority for the '080 application to the '657 application. Under the patent laws and 5 regulations, an application is only entitled to claim priority to a prior application if such application 6 was co-pending at some point in the "life" of the two applications. Yet, with respect to the 7 applicants' scheme to advance the priority of the '080 application, their claim to priority of the '080 8 application to the '657 application violated this requirement of co-pendency because the applicants 9 did not file the '657 application until March 8, 1995, nearly one year after the applicants filed the 10 '080 application! The applicants failed to advise the Patent Office of this lack of co-pendency in 11 their December 5, 1995, preliminary amendment. Gen-Probe is informed and believes, and based 12 thereon alleges, that the applicants knew that the representation that the '080 application was a 13 divisional of the '657 application was improper, and that the applicants made this representation 14 with the intent of deceiving and misleading the Patent Office. 15

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APPLICANTS' MISREPRESENTATIONS ABOUT MULLIS, U.S. PATENT NO. 4,683,202.

Despite their intentional failure to disclose the fatal defect in their claim of priority 76. 17 in the '080 application, the applicants continued to prosecute the claims of that application. During 18 the course of that continued prosecution of the '080 application, the Patent Office rejected 19 applicants' proposed claims to a method of nucleic acid amplification on the grounds of the 20 disclosure of prior art that included the Mullis patent (U.S. Patent 4,683,202). In response, the 21 applicants argued that the prior art did not teach or disclose purification of a target nucleic acid 22 prior to amplification, yet, that argument was false. Specifically, in their December 5, 1995 23 Preliminary Amendment, the applicants made the following statements regarding the Mullis patent: 24

> Applicants submit the Examiner's conclusions is the product of an improper picking and choosing of selective disclosure from the cited references to obtain Applicants' invention and that when the references are considered for all that they teach the references do not disclose or suggest Applicants' invention. For example, while it is true that Mullis (U.S. No. 4,683,202) discloses DNA

> > CIVIL CASE NO. 99CV2668H AJB

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amplification and some improved sensitivity and ability to isolate 1 specific nucleoside sequences, Mullis also teaches away from 2 Applicants' invention. Specifically, Mullis teaches: 3 The present invention obviates the need for extensive purification of the product from a 4 complicated biological mixture. 5 (Col. 2, lines 32-34). Mullis reaffirmed this teaching later in the б disclosure: 7 It is not necessary that the sequence to be amplified be present initially in a pure form; it 8 may be a minor fraction of a complex mixture ... or a portion of a nucleic acid sequence due to a 9 particular microorganism which organism might 10 constitute only a very minor fraction of a particular biological sample. 11 (Col. 5, lines 49-56). Plainly, Mullis teaches that the amplification 12 method of his invention does not include purification before amplification and, in fact, does not require purification. Thus, 13 Mullis teaches away from Applicants' invention. 14 12/5/95 Preliminary Amendment at p. 16 [emphasis added]. The applicants repeated this 15 representation to the Patent Office regarding the teachings of Mullis in the Amendment filed on 16 October 18, 1996, at pp. 11-12. 17 The paragraph cited by the applicants from the Mullis patent reads in whole: 77. 18 Any source of nucleic acid, in *purified* or nonpurified form, can be 19 utilized as the starting nucleic acid or acids, provided it contains or is suspected of containing the specific nucleic acid sequence 20 desired. Thus, the process may employ, for example, DNA or 21 RNA, including messenger RNA, which DNA or RNA may be single stranded or double stranded. In addition, a DNA-RNA 22 hybrid which contains one strand of each may be utilized. A mixture of any of these nucleic acids may also be employed, or the 23 nucleic acid produced from a previous amplification reaction herein using the same or different primers may be so utilized. The 24 specific nucleic acid sequence to be amplified may be only a 25 fraction of a larger molecule or can be present initially as a discrete molecule, so that the specific sequence constitutes the 26 entire nucleic acid. It is not necessary that the sequence to be amplified be present initially in a pure form; it may be a minor 27 fraction of a complex mixture, such as a portion of the .beta.globin gene contained in whole human DNA or a portion of 28 CIVIL CASE NO. 99CV2668H AJB 264139 v3/SD 5nt703!.DOC 18. 011901/1309

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1	nucleic acid sequence due to a particular microorganism which organism might constitute only a very minor fraction of a					
2	particular biological sample. The starting nucleic acid may contain					
3	more than one desired specific nucleic acid sequence which may be the same or different. Therefore, the present process is useful and an					
4	not only for producing large amounts of one specific nucleic acid sequence, but also for amplifying simultaneously more than one					
5 6	different specific nucleic acid sequence located on the same or different nucleic acid molecules.					
7	(Col. 5, lines 34-63), emphasis added, underlined is the portion selectively cited by the applicants).					
8	Thus, contrary to the applicants' representation to the Patent Office, the omitted portion of the					
9	paragraph cited by the applicants expressly teaches that <i>purification can and should be used</i> with					
10	the amplification invention, thereby validating the Examiner's rejection.					
11	78. In addition to the excluded portion of the paragraph of the Mullis patent, the very					
12	next paragraph in the Mullis patent states:	6				
12	The nucleic acid or acids may be obtained from any source, for					
13	example, from plasmids such as pBR322, from cloned DNA or RNA, or from natural DNA or RNA from any source, including					
14	bacteria, yeast, viruses, and higher organisms such as plants or animals. DNA or RNA may be extracted from blood, tissue	1				
16	material such as chorionic villi or amniotic cells by a variety of					
17	techniques such as that described by Maniatis et al., Molecular Cloning A Laboratory Manual (New York: Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, 1982), pp. 280-281.					
18	(Col. 5, line 64-col. 6, line 6 [emphasis added]). Maniatis, et al., is a methods manual that teaches a					
19	variety of techniques for purifying RNA or DNA from blood, tissue or other cellular material. At					
20	pages 197-198 of Maniatis, et al., this reference teaches the purification of mRNA on a solid					
21	support using a probe. Thus, the very next paragraph of the Mullis patent following the selective					
22	citation by the applicants incorporates a disclosure of how to purify a sample prior to amplification.					
23	Gen-Probe is informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, that the applicants' knowingly and					
24	intentionally misrepresented the teachings of the Mullis reference to the United States Patent and					
25	Trademark Office. The applicants' selective removal of the first half of the cited paragraph that					
26	fully supported the Examiner's rejection based on Mullis and the following paragraph's implicit					
27	teaching of how to purify a sample prior to amplification evidence the knowing and intentional					
28						
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nature of the applicants' misrepresentation of the Mullis reference. 1

APPLICANTS' MISREPRESENTATIONS IN THE REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION FILED FOR THE '338 PATENT

79. On December 14, 1998, the applicants submitted a Request for Certificate of Correction for the '338 patent. Gen-Probe is further informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, that in this Request for Certificate of Correction the applicants represented to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office that the '505 application was unintentionally abandoned.

Gen-Probe is informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, that the applicants 80. made this representation knowing that the true facts were that the '505 application was intentionally abandoned.

In the December 14, 1998, Request for Certificate of Correction for the '338 patent, 81. the applicants identified a fatal defect in the claimed priority for the '338 patent involving patent 12 application Serial No. 07/648,468, and patent application Serial No. 07/136,920. By the December 13 14, 1998, Request for Certificate of Correction, the applicants attempted to cure that fatal defect by, 14 in part, representing to the Patent Office that the applicants did not discover the fatal priority defect 15 prior to the issuance of the '338 patent.

16 The applicants also represented in the Request for Certificate of Correction for the 82. '338 patent that the mistakes for which correction was sought were of minor character, and resulted 18 from errors made in good faith by the applicants.

19 Gen-Probe is informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, that through the 83. 20 aforementioned Certificate of Correction, the applicants knowingly and intentionally 21 misrepresented its knowledge regarding this priority defect with the intent of deceiving the U.S. 22 Patent and Trademark Office. In truth, the applicants were aware of the defect in its claim of 23 priority for the '338 patent well before the issuance of the '338 patent. In addition, Gen-Probe is 24 informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, that the applicants knew that the mistakes for 25 which correction was sought were not of minor character, and did not resulted from errors made in 26 good faith by the applicants, and intentionally misrepresented this to the Patent Office.

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The applicants further represented in the Request for Certificate of Correction for 84.

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the '338 patent that the '338 patent was a continuation of the '826 application. However, the '338
 patent could not be a continuation of the '826 application, because the disclosure of the '338 patent
 was not identical to the disclosure of the '826 application.

- 4 85. Gen-Probe is informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, that the applicants
 5 knew that the '338 patent could not be a continuation of the '826 application, and that through the
 6 aforementioned Certificate of Correction, the applicants knowingly and intentionally
 7 misrepresented its knowledge with the intent of deceiving the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.
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APPLICANTS' MISREPRESENTATION IN THEIR PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.182

9 86. On December 14, 1998, the applicants filed a petition with the Patent Office under 10 37 C.F.R. § 1.182 to amend the claimed priority stated in application Serial No. 08/124,826 (the 11 "826 application") so as to attempt to cure further fatal defects in the priority claim for the '338 12 patent. At the time of such petition, however, the applicants had previously intentionally 13 abandoned the '826 application.

In order to overcome the impediment to its effort to cure the fatal defect in the 87. 14 claim of priority for the '338 patent arising in the '826 application, the applicants argued in its 15 petition to amend the '826 application that an intentionally abandoned application could be 16 amended after abandonment. Gen-Probe is informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, that 17 the applicants misrepresented legal authority to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. Gen-Probe is 18 informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, that the applicants' knew that the legal authority 19 it presented to the Patent Office to support its petition to amend the '826 application and cure the 20 otherwise fatal priority defect in the '338 patent did not stand for the proffered proposition and that 21 the applicants knowingly misrepresented this legal authority to the U.S. Patent and Trademark 22 Office with the intent to deceive the Patent Office. 23

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APPLICANTS' FAILURE TO DISCLOSE ALL ART KNOWN TO IT DURING THE PROSECUTION OF THE '338 PATENT

88. During the course of its prosecution of the claims that ultimately issued in the '338
 patent, the applicants concurrently presented counterpart patent applications and patent claims to
 international and foreign patent offices. During the course of the examination and prosecution of
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those counterpart applications and patent claims, the European Patent Office, for one, identified and disclosed to the applicants prior art material to the prosecution of the '338 patent claims that was not before or considered by the United States Patent and Trademark Office in the examination of the '338 patent. For example, among this prior art of record in the European Patent Office proceedings but not in the United States Patent Office was the following: EP-A-0200362 (Cetus Corp.); EP-A-0265244 (Amoco Corp.); EP-A-0154505 (Ortho Diagnostic Systems, Inc.); WO-A-8605815 (Genetics Int'l Inc.); WO-A-8701730 (Yale Univ.).

Notwithstanding the applicants' duty to disclose all material information to the 89. 8 Patent Office, the applicants failed to disclose the foregoing prior art to the Patent Office. In 9 addition, upon filing the application which led to the issuance of the '338 patent, the applicants did 10 not submit a Form 1449, citing all known material art to the Patent Office, as required to ensure that 11 all known material art is considered by the Patent Office. Gen-Probe is informed and believes, and 12 based thereon alleges, that the applicants knowingly and intentionally failed to submit a Form 1449 13 and concurrently failed to apprise the Patent Office of prior art identified in the European Patent 14 Office proceedings in order to deceive the Patent Office and prevent it from considering all relevant 15 16 prior art.

COUNT SIX

UNENFORCEABILITY OF THE '338 PATENT DUE TO LACHES.

90. Gen-Probe repeats, repleads and incorporates herein the allegations of paragraphs 1
through 89 of this complaint.

91. Gen-Probe is informed and believes, and based thereon alleges, that the applicants intentionally, unreasonably, and inexcusably delayed in the prosecution of the invention claimed in the '338 patent, and that Gen-Probe was prejudiced by this delay. Accordingly, the '338 patent is unenforceable against Gen-Probe due to laches.

WHEREFORE, Gen-Probe prays as follows:

1. For declarations:

a. That Gen-Probe's products do not and will not infringe any valid claims of

'338 patent;

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	1	b. That the claims of	the '338 patent are invalid;		
	2	c. That the claims of	the '338 patent are unenforceable; and		
	3	d. Of Gen-Probe's ri	ghts and obligations under the License;		
	4	2. For a preliminary and per	manent injunction enjoining and restraining defendant, its		
	5	respective officers, agents, servants, en	ployees and attorneys, and all persons acting in concert		
	6	with them, and each of them:			
	7	a. From making any	claims to any person or entity that Gen-Probe's products		
	8	infringe the '338 patent;			
	9	b. From interfering with, or threatening to interfere with the manufacture, sale,			
	10	license, or use of Gen-Probe's products by Gen-Probe, its allied parties, distributors, customers,			
	11	licensees, successors or assigns, and others; and			
	12	c. From instituting or prosecuting any lawsuit or proceeding, placing in issue			
Û.	13	the right of Gen-Probe, its allied parties, distributors, customers, licensees, successors or assigns,			
	14	and others to make, use or sell Gen-Probe's products;			
utar 100223000 100223000	15	3. For recovery of Gen-Probe's damages, as proven at time of trial, and restitution of			
T T	16	any sums by which Vysis has been unjustly enriched;			
-	17	4. For recovery of Gen-Probe's attorneys' fees and costs of suit incurred herein; and			
4	18	5. For such other and furthe	r relief as the Court may deem just and proper.		
	. 19	Dated: January, 2001	STEPHEN P. SWINTON COOLEY GODWARD LLP		
	20 21	. •	DOUGLAS E. OLSON BROBECK PHLEGER & HARRISON LLP		
	22		R. WILLIAM BOWEN, JR. GEN-PROBE, INC.		
	23	· · ·			
	24				
	25				
	26		By:		
	27		Stephen P. Swinton		
	28		Attorneys for Plaintiff GEN-PROBE INCORPORATED		
ATTORNEYS AT LAW Snt70		264139 v3/SD 5nt703!.DOC 011901/1309	CIVIL CASE NO. 99CV2668H AJB 23.		

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	10	Facsimile: (858) 410-8637				
	11	Attorneys for Plaintiff				
] 0	12	GEN-PROBE INCORPORATED				
<u> </u>	13	Ι ΝΠΤΕΝ ΥΤΑΤ	ES DISTRICT COURT			
u L	14	UNITED STAT				
	15	SOUTHERN DIS	TRICT OF CALIFORNIA			
ñ	16	CENT DRODE DICORDOR ATED	No. 99cv2668 H (AJB)			
	17	GEN-PROBE INCORPORATED,				
	18	Plaintiff,	NOTICE OF LODGMENT OF CASE AUTHORITY NOT IN OFFICIAL REPORTER SYSTEM IN			
0	19	v.	SUPPORT OF GEN-PROBE INCORPORATED'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE SECOND			
		VYSIS, INC., Defendant.	AMENDED COMPLAINT			
	20		Date: February 20, 2001			
	21		Time: 10:30 a.m. Dept: Courtroom 1			
	22					
	23	TO ALL PARTIES AND THEIR ATTORNEYS OF RECORD:				
	24	PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Plaintiff Gen-Probe Incorporated hereby lodges the following				
	25	cases which do not appear in the official Federal Reporter system, but which are cited in support of				
	26	its Motion for Leave to File a Second Amend	ed Complaint:			
	27	111				
	- 28	111				
COOLEY GODWARD LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW SAN DIEGO		266596 v1/SD 5PPG01!.DOC 011901/1318	No. 99cv2668 Н (АЈВ)			

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	1	Ехнівіт 1:	Symbol Tec	chnologies, Ir	ec. v. Lemelsc	on Medical, Ed	lucation &	Research
	2		Foundation,	Limited Parti	nership, 2000 V	VL 1300430 (Fe	d. Cir. Sept.	1, 2000).
	3				STEDUE	N P. SWINTON		
	4					GODWARD LI	LP	
	5				DOUGLA BROBEC	AS E. OLSON XK PHLEGER &	HARRISON	LLP
	6					IAM BØWEN, Л ОВЕЛИСОВРОГ	\sim	
÷	7				GEN-PR	OBETINCORPOR	RATED	-
	8				By:	Killi	The	-
	9					Stephen P.	Swinton	
	10				Attorneys Gen-Pro	s for Plaintiff BE INCORPORATE	D	
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2000 WL 1300430 (Table) 56 U.S.P.Q.2d 1381 Unpublished Disposition (Cite as: 2000 WL 1300430 (Fed.Cir.))

NOTICE: THIS IS AN UNPUBLISHED OPINION. Use FI CTAF Rule 47.6 and FI CTAF App. V, IOP 9 for rules regarding the citation of unpublished opinions.

NOTE: THIS OPINION WHEL NOT BE PUBLISHED IN A PRINTED VOLUME. THE DISPOSITION WILL APPEAR IN A REPORTER TABLE.

United States Court of Appeals, Federal Circuit.

SYMBOL TECHNOLOGIES, INC., Accu-Sort Systems, Inc., Intermec Technologies Corporation, Metrologic Instruments, Inc., PSC

Inc., Teklogix Corporation,

Zebra Technologies Corporation, and Cognex Corporation, Plaintiffs-Petitioners,

LEMELSON MEDICAL, EDUCATION & RESEARCH FOUNDATION, LIMITED PARTNERSHIP, Defendant-Respondent.

No. 626.

Sept. 1, 2000.

On Petition for Permission to Appeal.

Before MICHEL, RADER, and SCHALL, Circuit Judges.

ORDER

MICHEL, Circuit Judge.

*1 Symbol Technologies, Inc. et al. (Symbol) petition for permission to appeal, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1292(b), (c)(1), an order certified by the United States District Court for the District of Nevada. Lemelson Medical, Education, & Research Foundation, Limited Partnership (Lemelson) opposes. National Retail Federation moves for leave to file an amicus curiae brief in support of granting the petition, with brief attached. Lemelson opposes.

Briefly, this declaratory judgment action involves Lemelson patents related to bar code technology. The patents, which contain identical written JAN 3 1 2001

descriptions and drawings, are based on a chain of continuing and divisional applications and may be entitled to a priority date in the mid 1950s. Lemelson moved to dismiss Symbol's defense, asserted in the fourth count of Symbol's complaint, that the equitable doctrine of laches in patent prosecution could be applied. The district court granted the motion to dismiss stating:

[In Ford] the Honorable Lloyd D. George ... held that "Lemelson's use of the continuation applications process may have exploited an open area of patent practice, [but] the court should not intervene in equity to regulate what Congress has not." It is therefor improper to introduce the equitable doctrine of laches into the statutory scheme of continuation practice.

The district court subsequently certified its order dismissing Symbol's "laches in prosecution" claim as involving a controlling question of law as to which there was a substantial ground for difference of opinion and that an immediate appeal from such order could materially advance the ultimate termination of the litigation. [FN*]

FN* Symbol asserts that the controlling question of law is:

As a matter of law, can the equitable doctrine of laches ever apply to bar enforcement of patent claims which were first presented to the Patent Office for examination after an unreasonable and unexplained delay that causes injury to an alleged infringer and others?

Symbol states that this court has not definitively determined whether laches in prosecution can be a defense to an infringement action. Symbol also states that Lemelson has sued "hundreds of defendants" based on its bar code patents. Symbol and the amicus forcefully urge the court to grant Symbol's petition.

This court has complete discretion in determining whether to grant or deny a petition for permission to appeal. In re Convertible Rowing Exerciser Patent Litigation, 903 F.2d 822 (Fed.Cir.1990). We determine in our discretion to grant Symbol's petition, in part because the issue affects not only this case, but many other cases as well.

Accordingly,

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

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2000 WL 1300430 (Table) (Cite as: 2000 WL 1300430, *1 (Fed.Cir.))

(1) Symbol's petition for permission to appeal is granted.

(2) National Retail Federation's motion for leave to file an amicus brief in support of the petition is granted.

END OF DOCUMENT

Copr. © West 2001 No Claim to Orig. U.S. Govt. Works

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 0 11 0 11 0 11 0 11 0 11 0 11		TES DISTRICT COURT TRICT OF CALIFORNIA
13 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	GEN-PROBE INCORPORATED, Plaintiff, v. VYSIS, INC., Defendant.	No. 99cv2668 H (AJB) PROOF OF PERSONAL SERVICE Date: February 20, 2001 Time: 10:30 a.m. Dept.: Courtroom 1
20 COOLEY GODWARD LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW SAN DIEGO	261612 v4/SD 5LV004!.DOC 011901/1502	No. 99c

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 SWINTON IN SUPPORT OF GEN-PROBE INCORPORATED'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO F AMENDED COMPLAINT; NOTICE OF LODGMENT OF CASE AUTHORITY NOT IN REPORTER SYSTEM IN SUPPORT OF GEN-PROBE INCORPORATED'S MOTION FOR FILE SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT on the interested parties in this action by per delivering a copy of said document(s) to the address(es) listed below: John H. L'Estrange, Jr. Esq. Wright and L'Estrange John H. L'Estrange San Diego, CA 92101 Tel: (619) 231-4844 Fax: (619) 231-6710 Attorneys for Vysis, Inc. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Califor 	ess Network, on Of Gen- emorandum d's Motion					
3 I am employed in the City of San Diego, County of San Diego, California; I 4 age of eighteen years and not a party to the within action; my business address is Expr 5 401 West A Street, Suite 190, San Diego, California 92101. 6 On January 19, 2001, I served the within NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION 7 PROBE INCORPORATED FOR LEAVE TO FILE SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT; MI 8 POINTS AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT IN SUPPORT OF GEN-PROBE INCORPORATE 9 FOR LEAVE TO FILE A SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT; DECLARATION OF 10 Swinton In SUPPORT OF GEN-PROBE INCORPORATED'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FIL 11 AMENDED COMPLAINT; NOTICE OF LODGMENT OF CASE AUTHORITY NOT IN 12 REPORTER SYSTEM IN SUPPORT OF GEN-PROBE INCORPORATED'S MOTION FOR 13 FILE SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT on the interested parties in this action by per 14 delivering a copy of said document(s) to the address(es) listed below: 15 John H. L'Estrange, Jr. Esq. 16 701 B Street, Suite 1550 17 Tel: (619) 231-4844 Fax: (619) 231-6710 18 Attorneys for Vysis, Inc. 19 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Califor 20	ess Network, on Of Gen- emorandum d's Motion					
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11 AMENDED COMPLAINT; NOTICE OF LODGMENT OF CASE AUTHORITY NOT IN 12 REPORTER SYSTEM IN SUPPORT OF GEN-PROBE INCORPORATED'S MOTION FOR 13 FILE SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT on the interested parties in this action by per 14 delivering a copy of said document(s) to the address(es) listed below: 15 John H. L'Estrange, Jr. Esq. Wright and L'Estrange Wright and L'Estrange 16 701 B Street, Suite 1550 San Diego, CA 92101 Tel: (619) 231-4844 Fax: (619) 231-6710 Attorneys for Vysis, Inc. 19 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Califo 20	FOR LEAVE TO FILE A SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT; DECLARATION OF STEPHEN P.					
12 REPORTER SYSTEM IN SUPPORT OF GEN-PROBE INCORPORATED'S MOTION FOR 13 FILE SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT on the interested parties in this action by per 14 delivering a copy of said document(s) to the address(es) listed below: 15 John H. L'Estrange, Jr. Esq. Wright and L'Estrange 701 B Street, Suite 1550 San Diego, CA 92101 717 761: (619) 231-4844 Fax: (619) 231-6710 Attorneys for Vysis, Inc. 19 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Califor 20	SWINTON IN SUPPORT OF GEN-PROBE INCORPORATED'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE SECOND					
 FILE SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT on the interested parties in this action by per delivering a copy of said document(s) to the address(es) listed below: John H. L'Estrange, Jr. Esq. Wright and L'Estrange Tol B Street, Suite 1550 San Diego, CA 92101 Tel: (619) 231-4844 Fax: (619) 231-6710 Attorneys for Vysis, Inc. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Califo foregoing is true and correct, and that this declaration was executed on January 19, 200 (signature) 	AMENDED COMPLAINT; NOTICE OF LODGMENT OF CASE AUTHORITY NOT IN OFFICIAL					
 16 701 B Street, Suite 1550 San Diego, CA 92101 Tel: (619) 231-4844 Fax: (619) 231-6710 Attorneys for Vysis, Inc. 19 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Califor 20 foregoing is true and correct, and that this declaration was executed on January 19, 200 21 22 	REPORTER SYSTEM IN SUPPORT OF GEN-PROBE INCORPORATED'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO					
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 16 701 B Street, Suite 1550 San Diego, CA 92101 Tel: (619) 231-4844 Fax: (619) 231-6710 Attorneys for Vysis, Inc. 19 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Califor 20 foregoing is true and correct, and that this declaration was executed on January 19, 200 21 22 	delivering a copy of said document(s) to the address(es) listed below:					
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foregoing is true and correct, and that this declaration was executed on January 19, 20 21 22 (signature)						
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foregoing is true and correct, and that this declaration was executed on January 19, 20 21 22 (signature)	I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the					
(signature)	foregoing is true and correct, and that this declaration was executed on January 19, 2001.					
(signature)						
(print name)						
25						
26						
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28 204339 v1/SD Cooley Godward Lep 204339 v1/SD Civil Case No. 99CV Attorneys At Law 4D_301!.DOC 011901 1.						

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Image: matrix of the matrix	GEN-PROBE INCORPORATED, Plaintiff, v. VYSIS, INC., Defendant.	No. 99cv2668 H (AJB) PROOF OF SERVICE Date: February 20, 2001 Time: 10:30 a.m. Dept.: Courtroom 1	
28 COOLEY GODWARD LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW SAM DIEGO	261612 v4/SD 5LV004!.DOC 011901/1502		No. 99c

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PROOF OF SERVICE (FEDERAL EXPRESS)

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I, Alison J. Lyman, hereby declare:

I am employed in the City of San Diego, County of San Diego, California in the office of a 3 member of the bar of the court in which the within action is pending at whose direction the 4 following service was made. I am over the age of eighteen years and not a party to the within 5 My business address is Cooley Godward LLP, 4365 Executive Drive, Suite 1100, 6 action. San Diego, California 92121-2128. I am personally and readily familiar with the business 7 practice of Cooley Godward LLP for collection and processing of notices and other papers to be 8 sent by overnight delivery service by Federal Express. Pursuant to that business practice, 9 envelopes and packages are placed for collection at designated stations and in the ordinary course 10 of business are that same day deposited in a box or other facility regularly maintained by such 11 express service carrier or delivered to an authorized courier or driver authorized by such express 12 service carrier to receive documents, in an envelope or package designated by such express service 13 14 carrier, with delivery fees paid or provided for.

On January 19, 2001, I served: NOTICE OF MOTION AND MOTION OF GEN-PROBE 15 INCORPORATED FOR LEAVE TO FILE SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT; MEMORANDUM POINTS 16 AND AUTHORITIES IN SUPPORT IN SUPPORT OF GEN-PROBE INCORPORATED'S MOTION FOR 17 LEAVE TO FILE A SECOND AMENDED COMPLAINT ; DECLARATION OF STEPHEN P. SWINTON IN 18 SUPPORT OF GEN-PROBE INCORPORATED'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE SECOND AMENDED 19 COMPLAINT; NOTICE OF LODGMENT OF CASE AUTHORITY NOT IN OFFICIAL REPORTER 20 SYSTEM IN SUPPORT OF GEN-PROBE INCORPORATED'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE SECOND 21 AMENDED COMPLAINT on the interested parties in this action by placing a true copy thereof, on 22 the above date, enclosed in a sealed envelope, at a station designated for collection and processing 23 of envelopes and packages for overnight delivery service by Federal Express as part of the 24 ordinary business practice of Cooley Godward LLP described above, addressed as follows: 25

28 COOLEY GODWARD LLP ATTORNEYS AT LAW SAN DIEGO

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CIVIL CASE NO. 99CV2668H (AJB)

Thomas W. Banks Esq. ì Charles E. Lipsey, Esq. 1 Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, et al. Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, et al. 700 Hansen Way 1300 I Street, N.W., Suite 700 2 Palo Alto, CA 94304 Washington, DC 20005-3315 Tel: (650) 849-6600 Tel: (202) 408-4000 3 Fax: (650) 849-6666 Fax: (202) 408-4400 Attorneys for Vysis, Inc. 4 Attorneys for Vysis, Inc. I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the 5 foregoing is true and correct, and that this declaration was executed on January 19, 2001, at 6 San Diego, California. 7 8 Alis**o**n J. L 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 CIVIL CASE NO. 99CV2668H (AJB) COOLEY GODWARD LLP 217460 v1/SD 2. ATTORNEYS AT LAW 4NSK011.DOC / 011901 SAN DIEGO

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